IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Re:

US Patent Application

10/018,979

FEB 0 8 2005

Filed

December 18, 2001

Title Muffler Device of a Motor Vehicle, With Variable Damping Characteristic

Applicant

Schumacher et al

Art Unit

2837

Examiner

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Attorney Docket

(E) 1734 US

Mail Stop Response With Fee

Art Unit 2837

PO Box 1450

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Amendment

Dear Examiner McCloud:

This responds to the Office Action mailed on June 17, 2004.

A clean set of the claims as amended is submitted on the following pages.

Schumacher (E) 1734 US 10/018,979 Response to Office Action mailed June 17, 2004